

Opiod Settlement Advisory Committee

Date: 8/21/1024

Location and Time: 1 – 3 p.m.

Present: Mark Levine, MD, Kristin Atwood, Caroline Butler, Monica Hutt, Madeline Motta, Scott Pavek, Jess Kirby, Shawn Burke, Dane Whitman, Deb Wright

Absent: Michael Doenges, Heather Stein, MD, Ruth Hardy, Stacey Sigmon, Shayne Spence, Senator

Meeting Facilitator and Note Taker: Mark Levine, and Sarah Gregorek

Meeting Objectives:		
Agenda Item	Discussion	Next Steps
Update on Settlement Funds Mark Levine, MD	<p>Vermont has received money from seven settlements, the opioid abatement fund receives 70% of these funds:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Distributors – Vermont has/will receive \$3M per year from 2022 through 2038. 2. Jansen – Vermont has received \$100,000 for 2025 and from 2026 – 2031 we will receive approximately \$500,000 per year 3. Teva – Vermont has received \$780,000 for 2025 and between 2025 – 2035 we will receive approximately \$750,000 per year 4. Allergan – Vermont has received \$773,000 for 2025 and between 2025 – 2029 will receive \$780,000 per year 5. CVS – Vermont has received \$682,000 for 2024 and between 2025 – 2032 will receive \$1.3 Million per year 6. Walgreens – Vermont has received \$665,000 for 2024 and between 2025 – 2037 we will receive between \$680,000 - \$1Million per year 7. Walmart – Vermont has received \$6.58 Million in 2024 <p>It has been reported that Vermont has received about \$11.7 million in the last several months.</p>	

<p>FY 2025 Ongoing Funding Activities Mark Levine, MD</p>	<p>Outreach Case Managers - \$1,976,000.00 Per Act 22 fund 26 outreach or case management staff positions within the preferred provider network for the provision of services that increase motivation of and engagement with individuals with substance use disorder in settings such as police barracks, shelters, social service organizations, and elsewhere in the community; (B) it the intent of the General Assembly that these positions shall be funded annually by the Opioid Abatement Special Fund unless and until the Special Fund does not have sufficient monies to fund this expenditure;</p> <p>Overdose Prevention Center \$1,100,000.00 Per Act 179 It is the intent of the General Assembly to continue to appropriate funds from the Opioid Abatement Special Fund through fiscal year 2028 for the purpose of awarding grants to the City of Burlington for the operation of the pilot program.</p> <p>Recovery Residence \$113,000 Per act 113, it is the intent of the General Assembly that recovery residences be funded annually at not less than fiscal year 2025 levels through the Opioid Abatement Special Fund established in 18 V.S.A. § 4774 as long as funds remain available. This will fund recovery workforce, certification and housing.</p> <p>Syringe Services \$1M in 2025 and \$1M per year after that The State’s four syringe service providers to provide overdose prevention services and response education and resources that build trust between individuals with substance use disorder and Vermont’s system of care.</p> <p>These four items total approximately \$5 M, that leaves us with \$6M for funding 2026 proposals at this time.</p> <p>The legislature wants this committee to continue to fund the following: Harm reduction supplies (Narcan/xylazine test strips) Contingency Management</p>	<p>The committee needs to keep apprised of legislatively mandated funding activities, as well as consider sustainability of program funding in all future decisions</p>
<p>Update on FY 2024 Funding Projects, Act 22</p>	<p>Opioid Settlement Fund activities status report (healthvermont.gov)</p>	<p>Kelly has shared the forms with the</p>

Kelly Dougherty	Kelly reviewed the status of the projects that were funded in Act 22.	committee requesting feedback by 8/28.
Opioid Settlement Funding Application Process for State Fiscal Year 2026	<p>Kelly reviewed the new application process and timeline for settlement money. The information will be posted on our web site by 9/1/24 and will also be posted on the business registry and we will share this information with our partners. There was discussion around extending the application deadline of 9/20.</p> <p>The committee members will be able to review the applications via SharePoint and can submit their feedback via a Microsoft form. The committee will discuss the proposals at the September 23 meeting. The applicants that move forward will be invited to present at the October, November and December meetings. The committee will make their final recommendations by early January.</p>	
Overdose Prevention Site Kelly and Lauren Layman	<p>The Department of Health has been actively working on the Overdose Prevention Guidelines and will be sharing them with stakeholders over the next couple of weeks for feedback. We need to submit the guidelines to the legislature by 9/15. When they're approved, we will be working on a grant with the City of Burlington.</p> <p>The guidelines are very comprehensive and provide best practice guidance which we created specifically for our needs in Vermont.</p>	
Public Comment	<p>Ed Baker Ed appreciates how quickly VDH is moving on the Overdose prevention site process and would like to be involved in the stakeholder meetings. Ed sent the committee a link to the 8/29/24 Overdose Awareness gathering at Burlington's City Hall Park.</p> <p>The first point I'd like to reference a memorandum from the Chair on March 10th, 2023, to Senator Jane Kitchell. This is your board chairman funding recommendations for fiscal year 2024. So, this is a quote "The inescapable conclusion and prevailing sentiment have been to fund harm reduction and treatment engagement at this early juncture and as increasing settlement dollars become available in subsequent years to then strategically allocate funds to prevention programming and initiatives."</p> <p>I do not remember the committee voting on this idea that you would first fund harm reduction and then subsequent years strategically allocate funds to prevention</p>	

	<p>programming. I think we need to look at that. You may wind up funding harm reduction through the life of your committee, if that's what the needs in Vermont determine.</p> <p>The second point is the reviewing proposals, debating proposals and approving proposals. There was mention made if a person has a right to vote and the vote bears upon their organization that they should recuse themselves, I will challenge that based on Thomas Jones. I think a fourth section should be added to the form and it should be non-refusal due to good cause. I'm afraid that if we have recusals, ignoring good cause that the voting balance of the committee will be tipped in one situation or another in an unjust way, and I want people to really think about that.</p> <p>Thomas Jones, an invited expert and consultant on ethics strongly recommends a recusal policy be developed by this committee, and I strongly recommend in that recusal policy, inclusion of the good cause.</p> <p>I'm very enthusiastic and I'm very proud of everything you've done, and I intend to remain a part of the committee as a public commentator for the life of the committee</p>	
Next Meeting	September 23, 2024 10 - noon	